



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:

Bernd-Georg Pietras

Serial No.: 10/621,971

Confirmation No.: 2036

Filed: July 17, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD

FOR FACILITATING THE CONNECTION OF TUBULARS

USING A TOP DRIVE

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: Frank Tsay

Customer No.: 36735

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,

Kyla D. Cummings
Typed Name

Signature

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 11 January 2005

Dear Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Applicant, and the Attorney who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor and the information in his file, submit herewith patents, publications, or other information of which they are aware, which may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

While the information submitted in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement may be material pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication, or other information referred to therein is prior art for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97, this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made

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or that no other possibly material information as defined under 37 CFR § 1.56(a) exists.

The patents and/or publications submitted herewith are set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the sum of \$180.00 due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) pursuant to § 1.97, and any other fee necessary to make this submission timely, to the Deposit Account No. 20-0782/MRKS/A0039C1/KDC.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyla D. Cummings

Registration No. 50,682

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Attorney for Applicant

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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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١	Application Number	10/621,971
١	Filing Date	July 17, 2003
İ	First Named Inventor	Bernd Georg Pietras
1	Group Art Unit	3672
	Examiner Name	Frank Tsay
	Attorney Docket Number	MRKS/0039.C1
	Customer No.	36735
	Submission Date	January 11, 2005

			U.S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
Initials*	No. ¹	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	MM-DD-YYYY		Figures Appear
	A1	US-2,167,338	07-25-1939	Murcell	
	A2	US-2,228,503	01-14-1941	Boyd, et al.	
	A3	US-2,370,832	03-06-1945	Baker	
	A4	US-2,379,800	07-03-1945	Hare	
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	A8	US-3,006,415	10-31-1961	Burns, et al.	
	A9	US-3,041,901	07-03-1962	Knights	
	A10	US-3,054,100	09-11-1962	Jones	
	A11	US-3,090,031	05-14-1963	Lord	
	A12	US-3,111,179	11-19-1963	Albers, et al.	
	A13	US-3,117,636	01-24-1964	Wilcox, et al.	
	A14	US-3,124,023	3-10-1964	Marquis, et al.	
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Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
Initials*	No. ¹	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of ottoo 2 seems	Relevant Figures Appear	
	B1	CA 2 335 192	11-30-2001	Kozak		
	B2	DE 3 523 221	02-01-1987	Svetozar		
	B3	DE 3 918 132	12-14-1989	Eriksson		
	B4	EP 0 474 481	03-11-1992	Moody		
	B5	EP 0 087 373	08-31-1983	Plaquin		<u> </u>

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered, Include copy of this form with new communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional), 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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muais	140.	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	WINI-DD-1111	Applicant of Cities 2	rigules Appeal
	A19	US-3,552,507	01-05-1971	Brown	
	A20	US-3,552,848	01-05-1971	Van Wagner	
	A21	US-3,566,505	03-02-1971	Martin	
	A22	US-3,602,302	08-31-1971	Kluth	
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	A30	US-3,848,684	11-19-1974	West	
	A31	US-3,857,450	12-31-1974	Guier	
	A32	US-3,913,687	10-21-1975	Gyongyosi, et al.	
	A33	US-4,054,332	10-18-1977	Bryan, Jr.	
	A34	US-4,095,865	06-20-1978	Denison, et al.	
	A35	US-4,127,927	12-05-1978	Hauk, et al.	
	A36	US-4,194,383	03-25-1980	Huzyak	

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Hillais	110.	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	WINT-BB-1111	7,00	Helevant Figures Appear	
	В6	EP 0 162 000	11-21-1985	Hamilton		
	B7	EP 0 171 144	02-12-1986	Stringfellow, et al.		
	B8	EP 0 285 386	10-05-1988	Haney		ļ
	В9	EP 0 426 123	05-08-1991	Reis, et al.		 -
	B10	EP 0 525 247	02-03-1993	Willis		Щ

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Initials*	No. ¹	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Figures Appear
	A37	US-4,227,197	10-07-1980	Nimmo, et al.	
	A38	US-4,241,878	12-30-1980	Underwood	
	A39	US-4,277,197	07-07-1981	Bingham	
	A40	US-4,280,380	07-28-1981	Eshghy	
	A41	US-4,311,195	01-19-1982	Mullins, II	
	A42	US-4,392,534	07-12-1983	Milda	
	A43	US-4,407,378	10-04-1983	Thomas	
	A44	US-4,427,063	01-24-1984	Skinner	
	A45	US-4,437,363	03-20-1984	Haynes	
	A46	US-4,445,734	05-01-1984	Cunningham	
	A47	US-4,449,596	05-22-1984	Boyadjieff	
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	A50	US-4,570,706	02-18-1986	Pugnet	
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	A52	US-4,593,773	06-10-1986	Skeie	
	A53	US-4,605,268	08-12-1986	Meador	
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Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or	T ⁶
Initials*	No.¹	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Relevant Figures Appear	
	B11	EP 0 589 823	03-03-1994	Busink, et al.		ļ
	B12	EP 0 659 975	06-28-1995	Nagaoka, et al.		
	B13	EP 0 790 386	08-20-1997	Newton, et al.		
	B14	EP 0 881 354	04-24-1998	Vercaemen, et al.		
	B15	EP 0 962 384	12-08-1999	Poldervaart		<u></u>

Date Considered Examiner

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Initials*	140.	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	WIWI-DD-1111		1 iguico / ppou.
	A55	US-4,646,827	03-03-1987	Cobb	
	A56	US-4,649,777	03-17-1987	Buck	
	A57	US-4,667,752	05-26-1987	Berry, et al.	
	A58	US-4,676,312	06-30-1987	Mosing, et al.	
	A59	US-4,683,962	08-04-1987	True	
	A60	US-4,691,587	09-08-1987	Farrand, et al.	
	A61	US-4,709,599	12-01-1987	Buck	
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	A63	US-4,738,145	04-19-1988	Vincent, et al.	
	A64	US-4,742,876	05-10-1988	Barthelemy, et al.	
	A65	US-4,759,239	07-26-1988	Hamilton, et al.	
	A66	US-4,765,401	08-23-1988	Boyadjieff	
	A67	US-4,773,689	09-27-1988	Wolters	
	A68	US-4,775,009	10-04-1988	Wittrisch, et al.	
	A69	US-4,781,359	11-01-1988	Matus	
<u> </u>	A70	US-4,788,544	11-29-1988	Howard	
	A71	US-4,791,997	12-20-1988	Krasnov	
	A72	US-4,793,422	12-27-1988	Krasnov	

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Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or	T⁰
Initials*	No.¹	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	umber-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)} MM-DD-YYYY Applicant of Cited Doc	Applicant of Cited Document	Relevant Figures Appear	
	B16	EP 1 256 691	11-13-2002	Hawkins, et al.		<u> </u>
	B17	FR 2 841 293	12-26-2003	Bouygues Offshore		<u> </u>
	B18	GB 2 115 940	09-14-1983	Plaquin		
	B19	GB 2 224 481	09-05-1990	Voeten		
	B20	GB 2 275 486	04-15-1993	Eiane, et al.		<u></u>

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Initials*	No.	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Figures Appear
	A73	US-4,800,968	01-31-1989	Shaw, et al.	
	A74	US-4,806,928	02-21-1989	Veneruso	
	A75	US-4,813,493	03-21-1989	Shaw, et al.	
	A76	US-4,836,064	06-06-1989	Slator	
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	A81	US-4,962,579	10-16-1990	Moyer, et al.	
	A82	US-5,009,265	04-23-1991	Bailey, et al.	
	A83	US-5,036,927	08-06-1991	Willis	
	A84	US-5,141,063	08-25-1992	Quesenbury	
	A85	US-5,176,518	01-05-1993	Hordijk, et al.	
	A86	US-5,191,932	03-09-1993	Seefried, et al.	
	A87	US-5,224,540	07-06-1993	Streich, et al.	
	A88	US-5,233,742	08-10-1993	Gray, et al.	
	A89	US-5,245,265	09-14-1993	Clay	
	A90	US-5,251,709	10-12-1993	Richardson	

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	B21	GB 2 294 715	08-05-1996	Tibbitts		ļ
	B22	GB 2 349 401	11-01-2000	Roberts, et al.		<u> </u>
	B23	GB 2 352 747	07-02-2001	Davis, et al.		
	B24	GB 2 357 530	06-27-2001	Schulze-Beckinghausen		
	B25	GB 2 372 765	09-04-2002	Head		<u> </u>

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Initials*	No.¹	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	MM-DD-YYYY		T iguitot (FF)
	A91	US-5,271,468	12-21-1993	Streich, et al.	
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	A95	US-5,388,651	02-14-1995	Berry	
	A96	US-5,394,823	03-07-1995	Lenze	
	A97	US-5,433,279	07-18-1995	Tassari, et al.	
	A98	US-5,494,122	02-27-1996	Larsen, et al.	
	A99	US-5,501,286	03-26-1996	Berry	
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	A111	US-5,540,279	07-30-1996	Branch, et al.	
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	A114	US-5,553,672	09-10-1996	Smith, Jr., et al.	
	A115	US-5,577,566	11-26-1996	Albright, et al.	
	A116	US-5,645,131	07-08-1997	Trevisani	
	A117	US-5,706,894	01-13-1998	Hawkins, III	
	A118	US-5,791,410	08-11-1998	Castille, et al.	

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		FORE	IGN PATENT	DOCUMENTS	D Columns Lines	Т6
Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	·
Initials*	No.¹	Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	IVIIVI-DD-1111		Ticlovanting	
	B26	GB 709 365	05-19-1954	Standard Oil Development		
	B27	GB 716 761	10-13-1954	Standard Oil Development		
	B28	GB 881 358	11-01-1961	Kammerer, et al.		
			11-22-2000	Baugh, et al.		
	B29	GB 2 350 137	05-20-1997	Abdrakhmanov		
	B30	RU 2 079 633	03-20-1007			

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1	Filing Date	July 17, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Bernd Georg Pietras
	Group Art Unit	3672
	Examiner Name	Frank Tsay
		MRKS/0039.C1
	Attorney Docket Number	
	Customer No.	36735
	Submission Date	January 11, 2005

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Under the Panenvork Reduction Act of 1995 no. 10/621,971 Application Number Substitute for form 1449A/PTO July 17, 2003 Filing Date Bernd Georg Pietras First Named Inventor INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

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STATEMENT BY AP	PLIC	AITI	Examiner Name	Frank Tsay	
(Use as many sheets as ned	essary))	Attorney Docket Number	MRKS/0039.C1	
·			Customer No.	36735	
	of	12	Submission Date	January 11, 2005	
Sheet 9	<u> </u>				

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Bernd Georg Pietras First Named Inventor 3672 **Group Art Unit** Frank Tsay **Examiner Name** MRKS/0039.C1 Attorney Docket Number 36735 Customer No.

January 11, 2005 Submission Date 12 of 10 Sheet

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Initials*	No.¹	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Relevant Figures Appear	
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	EMENT BY AP			Group Art Unit	3672
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
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